

PRESS RELEASE

PHILLIPS IN ASSOCIATION WITH BACS & RUSSO UNVEILS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE HONG KONG WATCH AUCTION: XX

Evening Session on 23 May Presents Timepieces Made in the 19th-Century for the Chinese Market & Art Deco Cartier Clocks Hailing from a Museum-Quality Collection

Day Sessions on 24-25 May to Feature an Exceptional Selection of Patek Philippe and Independent Watchmaking Masterpieces



HONG KONG – 25 APRIL 2025 – Phillips in Association with Bacs & Russo is delighted to present highlights from the [Hong Kong Watch Auction: XX](#), set to take place from 23-25 May at the company's Asia headquarters in the West Kowloon Cultural District. Comprised of 258 lots, the sale features an extraordinary collection of timepieces showcasing the pinnacle of horological craftsmanship and historical significance. Among the leading highlights is the possibly unique Patek Philippe ref. 5970P with special red hands. Independent watchmaking is represented by F.P. Journe's Tourbillon Souverain and Chronomètre à Résonance Black Label. Vintage Rolex enthusiasts will be

captivated by the rare Cosmograph ref. 6263 with the UAE Quraysh Hawk emblem. Additionally, the auction features 16 historically significant timepieces, including 19th-century mechanical curiosities made for the Chinese market and Art Deco Cartier clocks, which will be offered in a dedicated Evening session on 23 May.

Thomas Perazzi, Head of Watches, Asia, and Gertrude Wong, Head of Sale, jointly said, "As Phillips Watches celebrates its 10th anniversary, we are delighted to offer an exceptional array of timepieces that represent the pinnacle of horological artistry and historical significance. We are particularly honoured to present a museum-quality collection comprising pocket watches and mechanical curiosities made for the Chinese market, alongside unique Cartier clocks inspired by Far East culture. This collection, spanning from the 1800s to the 1930s and stored for over three decades, will be showcased in our Hong Kong auction this May. In addition, we continue to offer important wristwatches, including rare Patek Philippe models and iconic pieces that shape today's horological landscape. We celebrate both historical treasures and innovative independent watchmakers, looking forward to sharing these remarkable collectibles with fellow enthusiasts and collectors."

Exquisite 19th Century Timepieces and Mechanical Curiosities Made for the Chinese Market



Attributed to **Moulinié & Bautte & Cie**
Yellow gold enamel flintlock pistol-form
perfume sprinkler with a concealed watch,
circa 1800s
Estimate: HK\$800,000 - 1,600,000/
US\$100,000-200,000



L. Vrand & Co.
Minute repeating grande and petite
sonnerie pocket watch, circa 1890s
Estimate: HK\$800,000 - 1,600,000/
US\$100,000-200,000



Edouard Juvet
A pair of yellow gold and enamel open-
faced pocket watches, circa 1850s
Estimate: HK\$400,000 - 800,000/
US\$50,000-100,000

Flintlock pistol form perfume sprinkler watches are amongst the greatest rarities in automated precious objects, having fascinated the world for centuries with their romantic design. The present yellow gold pistol features intricate enamel work, pearls, diamonds, and a concealed watch with a manual key-wound movement that can be attributed to **Moulinié, Bautte & Cie**. Only a dozen surviving examples exist today, housed in prestigious collections like the Patek Philippe Museum and Topkapi Palace Museum. This well-preserved piece, accompanied by its original enamelled winding key manufactured by Ragnaud a Genève, offers collectors a unique opportunity to acquire a coveted object.

Another highlight from the curation of 19th Century timepieces made for the Chinese market is the Grande and Petite Sonnerie pocket watch, made 135 years ago, a rare masterpiece preserved in a private collection for nearly 30 years. Crafted by **L. Vrand & Cie** and decorated by P. Amédeé Champod, it features intricate hunting scenes and 154 pearls on its powder blue enamel case. Documented in "La Montre Chinoise," it was commissioned by a prominent Chinese collector in the late 19th century. The watch includes a white enamel dial with Louis XIV hands, Roman numerals, and gold decorations. Complete with its original mahogany presentation box, this exceptional piece is a significant collector's treasure.

This exceptionally rare pair of ornate antique pocket watches by Swiss watchmaker **Edouard Juvet** represents the pinnacle of 19th-century decorative watchmaking. Crafted in Fleurier for the Chinese market, these timepieces feature Juvet's signature enamel work depicting the legend of Titus and Berenice. The demand in China for Swiss watches had exploded during the mid-19th century, and Juvet's exquisite enamel work was highly prized. Each watch contains a highly praised key-wound movement, with intricate decorations and pristine enamel dials. Accompanied by their original leather presentation box, these well-preserved watches are a testament to Juvet's legacy and the cultural exchange of the era, making them prized relics for collectors.

This prestigious private collection also comprises an exceptional selection of Cartier's Art Deco clocks, which will be offered this May at auctions in [Geneva](#) and [Hong Kong](#). (Details available in the press release [here](#))

Important Patek Philippe

A leading highlight from this season's Patek Philippe group is a possibly unique **ref. 5970P-013** in platinum. Launched as the successor to iconic models (1518, 2499, 3970), ref. 5970 represents Thierry Stern's effort to honour tradition while making his own choices in design and innovation. This factory double-sealed example, fresh to the auction market, is exceptionally rare. It features four stunning red hands, an English calendar, and the inscription "A Mon Fils" (To My Son) on its sapphire caseback, adding profound sentimental value. Its rarity and emotional significance make it a crown jewel for collectors.



Patek Philippe, ref. 5970P-013 in platinum, circa 2011
Estimate: HK\$4,000,000 - 8,000,000/
US\$513,000-1,030,000



Patek Philippe, ref. 3970EJ-029 in yellow gold, circa 2019
Estimate: HK\$3,000,000 - 5,000,000/ US\$385,000-640,000

Among the rarest of modern Patek Philippe grand complications, the present **ref. 3970EJ-029** in yellow gold with a special inky black dial and Breguet numeral at 12 o'clock is exceptionally uncommon, being only the second known example to the auction market and having never been offered before. This model, launched in 1986, upholds the legacy of ref. 2499 with modern innovations. The privilege of personalization for Patek Philippe's most cherished clients continued even after standard production ceased in 2004, making this unique combination of black dial and yellow gold case highly sought after. Offered in "like-new" condition with its original accessories, this piece represents the pinnacle of Patek Philippe's contemporary creations for any discerning collector.

Another standout is **ref. 3700 Nautilus**, bearing a prominent Khanjar emblem at six o'clock, representing one of only four known in stainless steel. Timepieces bearing the Omani "Khanjar" emblem were specially commissioned by Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Said and given as prestigious gifts to his closest dignitaries and officials. Receiving such a watch was a high honour, and these timepieces are now cherished heirlooms, passed down through generations. The present example is in exceptional condition and is the only one confirmed by Patek Philippe Extract from the Archives with a Coat of Arms on the dial. Its rarity and historical significance make it one of the most collectible reference 3700 to appear on the market in recent years.

The Patek Philippe **ref. 3971**, now considered neo-vintage, has become highly collectible among enthusiasts. Inheriting the classic stepped lug case from its predecessor ref. 2499. It was introduced in 1986 with a 36mm diameter and a new dial configuration featuring the "American Typewriter" typeface. Introduced alongside with the ref. 3970, the model features a snap on sapphire caseback that displays its Lemania calibre in full glory. An extremely rare find, within 100 examples of the first series in yellow gold, only a handful of 3971J have appeared in the market. This present first series example, born in 1987, features an exceptionally rare Italian calendar and has been well-preserved in a private collection.

The Patek Philippe **ref. 3448**, introduced in 1962, was the world's first serially produced self-winding perpetual calendar, featuring a unique angular case design crafted by Antoine Gerlach. Produced until 1981 with only 586 pieces across four precious metals, it housed the exquisite calibre 27-460 Q, which is highly regarded by collectors as one of the most impressive movements of the era. Exceptionally rare, the "Senza Luna" versions without moon phase, like the present piece in yellow gold confirmed by the Patek Philippe Extract from the Archives, are highly sought after, with only four known examples in the metal, making it a prized collectible.

Produced between 1993 and 2011, Patek Philippe **ref. 5016** was once the most complicated wristwatch crafted by the manufacturer, combining a minute repeater, perpetual calendar, tourbillon, moon phases, and retrograde date. Offered in four precious metals, platinum examples feature silver or black dials with the movement number printed

below the moon phase. Approximately 200 examples were produced before discontinuation in 2011. The retrograde date resets gracefully through a spiral spring and rebound limiter mechanism. Housed in a 37mm case, the manual winding caliber is visible through the sapphire case back. With less than 20 examples resurfacing in the auction market, this beautifully preserved piece is being offered for the first time and is complete with original accessories.



Patek Philippe, ref. 3700/1, Nautilus "Jumbo", Oman, circa 1978
Estimate: HK\$3,900,000 - 7,500,000/ US\$500,000-960,000



Patek Philippe, ref. 3971J, first series, circa 1987
Estimate: HK\$1,500,000 - 3,000,000/ US\$192,000-385,000



Patek Philippe, ref. 3448 in yellow gold, circa 1974
Estimate: HK\$1,200,000 - 2,400,000/ US\$150,000-300,000



Patek Philippe, ref. 5016P-010 in platinum, circa 2007
Estimate: HK\$3,000,000 - 6,000,000/ US\$385,000-770,000

Independent Watchmaking



F.P. Journe, Tourbillon Souverain in platinum, circa 2003
Estimate: HK\$1,720,000 - 2,800,000/ US\$220,000-360,000



F.P. Journe, Chronometre à Résonance "Black Label", circa 2009
Estimate: HK\$1,200,000 - 2,400,000/ US\$150,000-300,000



Piaget, Gouverneur Grande Sonnerie, circa 1997
Estimate: HK\$1,400,000 - 2,400,000/ US\$180,000-300,000



Rolex, ref. 6263 in stainless steel with UAE Quraysh Hawk dial, circa 1977
Estimate: HK\$1,200,000 - 2,400,000/ US\$150,000-300,000

The present **F.P. Journe's Tourbillon Souverain** is from the fourth generation, produced between 2001 and 2003. Measuring 38mm, these pieces were crafted in platinum and pink gold, with yellow, white, and rare pink gold dial plates. Notable features include a flat remontoir balance cock, smaller dial screws, deeper caseback engravings, and upgraded holt head screws. This brass movement example, with a white gold dial and case, has developed a unique patina and is accompanied by its original warranty card and presentation box, offering a rare opportunity to acquire one of Journe's finest creations.

Since its introduction in 2000, the **Chronometre à Résonance** has become an iconic timepiece in contemporary horology, inspired by Antide Janvier's resonance phenomenon. François-Paul Journe's quest culminated in the first wristwatch utilizing this effect, featuring two independent balance wheels for enhanced accuracy. The second generation, RN series, launched in 2004, includes this 40mm model with an 18K pink gold movement and exclusive Black Label dial. Discontinued in 2009, this Chronometre à Résonance Black Label is the 5th example to appear in the market. Preserved in excellent condition and complete with its full set of accessories, this represents an uber rare iteration of one of the most significant horological breakthroughs in recent decades

Launched in 1995, the **Gouverneur collection** marked **Piaget's** entry into the high-end watch market. François-Paul Journe, then a freelance movement designer, created the grand sonnerie wristwatch prototype, featuring the caliber 1996P with grande and petite sonnerie, minute repeater, and power reserve indicator. This masterpiece, with visible hammers on the dial, was unconventional for its time. Only six of the originally commissioned ten pieces were produced due to manufacturing complexity. This rare example, the third to appear at auction, is the only known white gold version with a silvered dial.

Vintage Rolex

The present **Rolex Cosmograph ref. 6263**, featuring the UAE Quraysh Hawk emblem and the Arabic script signature of the Ministry of Defense, is a super rare and highly coveted piece among vintage watch collectors. Made for Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, this watch has a remarkable history and exceptional condition, with its case retaining sharp edges and the original Rolex sticker. Only a handful of these special commissions exist, with modified dials being significantly rarer. This example includes an exclusive letter from Rolex and an ultra-rare presentation box, making it a standout treasure for discerning collectors.

###

HIGHLIGHTS TOURS

Singapore: 18 - 19 April, 11am – 6pm

The Singapore EDITION Hotel, Level LG, Studio 3 38 Cuscaden Road, S(249731)

Taipei: 3 - 4 May, 11am-6pm

Bellavita B1 Art Gallery B1F., No. 28, Songren Rd., Xinyi Dist., Taipei City, Taiwan

Geneva: 7 - 11 May, Wednesday – Friday 10am – 7pm; Saturday – Sunday 9am – 1pm

Hotel President, Quai Wilson 47, 1201 Geneva

Auction: 23-25 May, 2025

Auction viewing: 16 – 25 May, 11am-7pm

Location: GF& 1/F, WKCDA Tower, West Kowloon Cultural District, No. 8 Austin Road West, Kowloon, Hong Kong

ABOUT PHILLIPS IN ASSOCIATION WITH BACS & RUSSO

The team of specialists at Phillips Watches is dedicated to an uncompromised approach to quality, transparency, and client service. Phillips in Association with Bacs & Russo holds the world record for the most successful watch auction, with its Geneva Watch Auction: XIV having realized \$74.5 million in 2021. The annual total for watch auctions in 2024 exceeded \$212 million, marking the first time any auction house's Watches department has surpassed US\$200 million in annual sales for four consecutive years.

Record-breaking prices include:

1. Paul Newman's Rolex "Paul Newman" Daytona reference 6239 (CHF 17,709,894 / US\$17,752,500) – New York Auction: Winning Icons – 26 October 2017 – Highest result ever achieved for any vintage wristwatch at auction.

2. Patek Philippe reference 1518 in stainless steel (CHF 11,020,000 / US\$11,112,020) – Geneva Watch Auction: FOUR – 12 November 2016 – Highest result ever achieved for a vintage Patek Philippe wristwatch at auction.

ABOUT PHILLIPS

Phillips: where the world's curious and bold connect with the art, design, and luxury that inspires them. As a leading global platform for buying and selling 20th and 21st century works, Phillips offers dedicated expertise in the areas of Modern and Contemporary Art, Design, Photographs, Editions, Watches, and Jewels. Auctions and exhibitions are primarily held in New York, London, Geneva, and Hong Kong, with representative offices based throughout Europe, the United States, and Asia. Phillips offers a regular selection of live and online auctions, along with items available for immediate purchase. Phillips also offers a range of services and advice on all aspects of collecting, including private sales and assistance with appraisals, valuations, and financial planning. Visit phillips.com for further information.

**Estimates do not include buyer's premium; prices achieved include the hammer price plus buyer's premium.*

PRESS CONTACTS:

HONG KONG – Ingrid Hsu, Head of PR and Corporate Communications, Asia ingridhsu@phillips.com

GENEVA – Marine Lemonnier-Brennan marine.lemonnier@289consulting.com

Aude Campanelli aude.campanelli@289consulting.com

LONDON – Alexandra Bradley, Head of Press, UK & Europe abradley@phillips.com

NEW YORK – Jaime Israni, Head of PR and Corporate Communications, Americas jisrani@phillips.com

Paul Lerner, Consultant plerner@optimistconsulting.com

PHILLIPS NEW YORK – 432 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10022

PHILLIPS LONDON – 30 Berkeley Square, London, W1J 6EX

PHILLIPS HONG KONG – G/F, WKCDA Tower, West Kowloon Cultural District, No. 8 Austin Road, West Kowloon

PHILLIPS GENEVA – Rue de la Confédération, 7 Geneva 1204

FOLLOW US ON:



WeChat